



Volume 1, Issue 09

Ouranophantor

September 2018

A Newsletter of St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church



St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church

733 S. Ashland Avenue, Chicago, IL 60607

www.stbasilchicago.org



Church Office:

Rev. Fr. Dimitri Tobias, *Proistamenos*

Telephone: 312-243-3738

Phone: 847-558-9849

Office Fax: 312-243-7961

email: Fr.dimitri.c.tobias@gmail.com

Parish Council President:

Jayme Schenk

Worship Hours

Sundays: Orthros 8:15 a.m. followed by Divine Liturgy

Weekdays: Divine Liturgy 8:30 a.m.

Esperinos: For Major Feasts 6:00 p.m.

Wednesday: Paraklesis Service 6:00 p.m.

Upcoming Events

Sunday, September 9

- Sunday School Begins; Sunday School Open House — immediately following Divine Liturgy

Tuesday, September 11

- St. Basil Cubs Outing — Wrigley Field at 7:05 p.m.

Saturday, September 15

- Dress a Girl Workshop (preparation for Sew-a-Thon)— St. Basil's Philoptochos Hall, 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Sunday, September 16

- Girls Ministry "JOY—Sunday in the Park" — immediately following Divine Liturgy

Saturday, October 13

- 6th Annual Metropolis Dress a Girl Around the World Sew-a-Thon— St. Basil's Philoptochos Hall, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Sunday, October 28

- St. Basil Prison Ministry Breakfast — immediately following Divine Liturgy

We welcome new families to our parish!

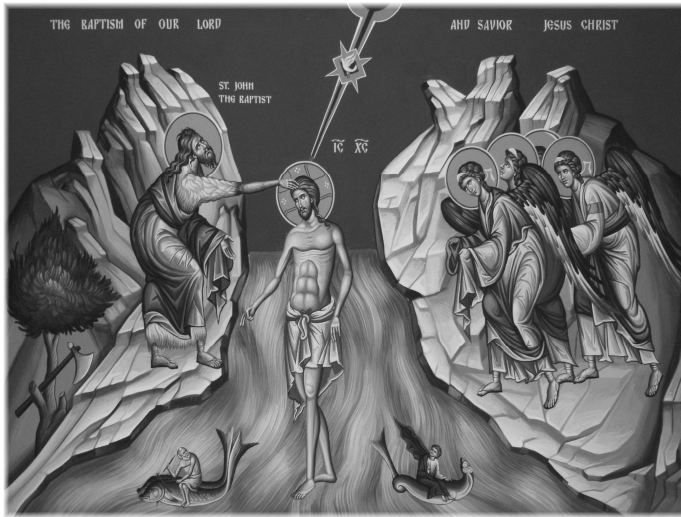
Now is the time to reach out to your loved ones who have fallen away for whatever reason and bring them back to church. Now is the time to share your faith with others. Together we must grow. Together we must build the Body of Christ. Invite someone to a service or to a church event. We have one of the friendliest communities in the Archdiocese. Let us go out so that they will know we are Christians by our love.

Follow on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/St-Basil-Greek-Orthodox-Church-476775679041438/>

Sacraments and Blessings

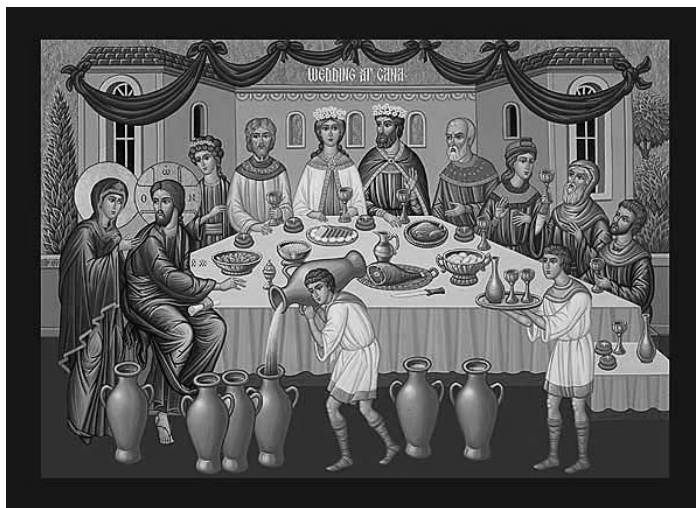
Baptisms:



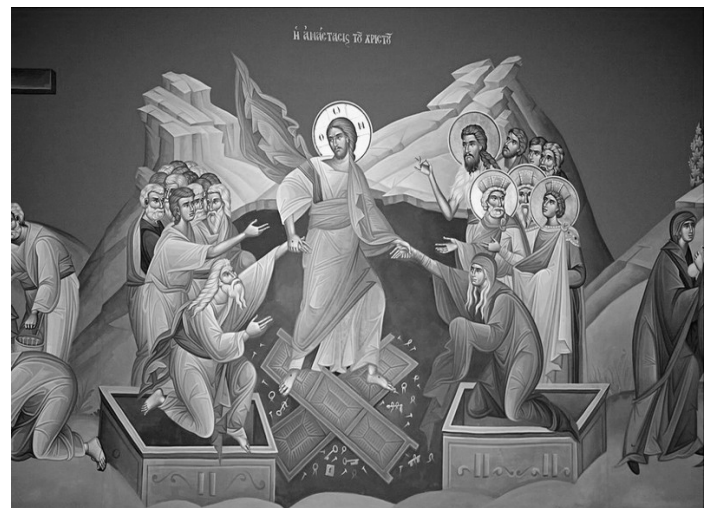
Chrismations:



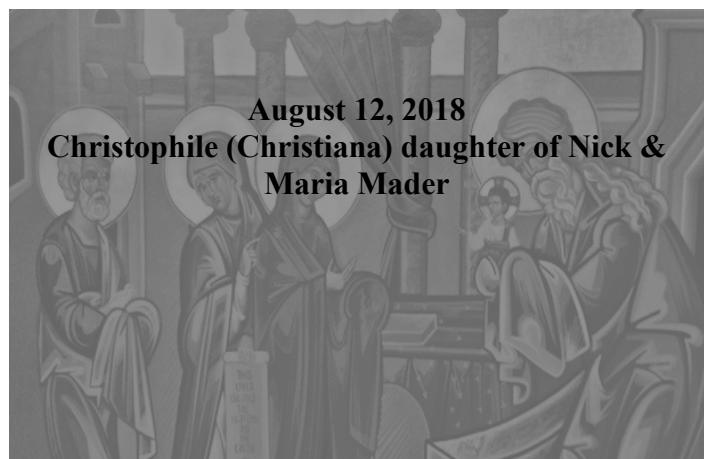
Weddings:



Funerals:



40-Day Blessings:



Father Dimitri's Message



My beloved brothers and sisters in Christ,

Happy New Year! I pray the Ecclesiastical Year of 2018-2019 fill us all with renewed zeal and faith in our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. With this new year we will see our ministries begin once again, some old and some new. A wise voice once said to me that "one must never rest on one's laurels," and this means sometimes trying something new.

In my first year, I have come to some pastoral observations on how I can better serve our parish. The first is stepping into the 21st century with our new adult education class being offered online through Zoom Conference. What this means is that I will be teaching weekly classes online. You can participate in the class in several ways.

1. You can go online on your computer by clicking on the link that will be provided to your email.
2. You can call into the class through the phone number provided in the email.
3. You can download the classes after the fact to listen, much like our sermons that are already on our website.

Second, I will be offering bible studies at the church during the week for those who are able to come. If you cannot physically attend, once again, the class will be simulcast through Zoom and recorded for those who would like to listen later.

Third, in conjunction with the Stewardship Committee, I will be holding regional dinners to get to know our church family a little better and also to listen to you all. Look for more information on this from the Stewardship Committee soon.

Fourth, I will be conducting a poll and survey to gather some information on the parish to better meet the needs of the parish. I will be conducting this research with the help of several parishioners. These will tackle language in the Liturgy, desired topics for discussions, and insight on reaching our faithful in a "post-Christian" era.

As we work together as a family, I am confident that we will continue to grow in size, strength, and faith.

I am your servant in Christ,

Fr. Dimitri Tobias

Welcoming Ministry

By Melita Green

You've likely seen Welcome Team members greeting Orthodox parishioners and non-Orthodox guests from the narthex. They give the guest a Liturgy book and St. Basil brochure, then they seat the guest near a St. Basil parishioner who has volunteered to help non-Orthodox guests during the Liturgy. This volunteer shows guests where we are in the Liturgy book and offers an explanation when anything unusual is happening (i.e. the churching of a baby, or there is a lengthy part of the service in Greek that will be followed by English, or it's time for communion and antidoron and the guest is giving signs that he or she is not sure what to do). It is important to help the guest know what is happening. They may invite the guest to receive antidoron and introduce him or her to the priest. We aim to reduce some of the anxiety of visiting a new church which may be very different from a guest's previous worship experiences.

Thank you to our volunteers who assist guests during the Liturgy.



Parish Council Update

By Christine Rousakis

Dear Friends of St. Basil,

We hope that you have had a pleasant summer thus far. If you have been away, we welcome you back. The St. Basil parish community has experienced several notable events, with more to follow.

The *St. Basil Parish Golf Outing* was held on Wednesday, July 11, at the Odyssey Golf Club in Tinley Park. Over 70 golfers participated and more joined afterward for the delicious dinner buffet and raffle. This important fundraiser raised **\$18,826.00** for our parish. We thank Eleni Kontolonis, Pauline Kontolonis, and Tom Sianis for their dedication to this event throughout the past several years. We hope that next year there is a greater showing of our own St. Basil parishioners, along with their families and friends. If you are not a golfer, join us for dinner and enjoy the lush surroundings of the golf course.

His Eminence Metropolitan Nathanael of Chicago celebrated his first Divine Liturgy with us on Sunday, August 5. Metropolitan Nathanael was warmly greeted by all of you after liturgy and during fellowship in the church hall. Those who spent a few moments with him found him to be most gracious, humble, and kind. We learned that the Metropolitan is a Yankees fan and invited him to the upcoming *Chicago Cubs Outing* on Wednesday, September 11. The Metropolitan will check his schedule and hopes to join us if he is able. Stay tuned!

Also, don't strike out and forget to purchase your own tickets for the *Chicago Cubs Outing* soon as they are going fast!

The annual *Panigiri* was held on Sunday, August 19, sponsored by the Parish Council and chaired by parishioner Tony Rouches. Thank you to all who assisted. The Panigiri raised nearly **\$1,900.00** for our parish. Did you know that you do not need to be a Parish Council member to chair or assist with an event? Do you have any suggestions for parish fundraising and/or ministries? Let us know.

Lastly, *Parish Council elections* for the next term will take place in November of this year. If you or someone you know is interested in learning more about this vital parish ministry, please contact Fr. Dimitri or Parish Council President Jayme Schenk.

Kind regards, Christine A. Rousakis

Philoptochos Update

By Vana Kikos

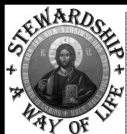
Hello St. Basil Parishioners! We will be having our first meeting of the fall season on Wednesday, September 12, at 6:50 p.m.

I will be providing a concise recap of our convention in Boston which took place July 1-5 for each of our members to look over. National Philoptochos topped its "One Million Meals" milestone this past year, and also contributed over \$360,000 to various charities. Our very own St. Basil chapter wrote cards to homeless veterans, made and served breakfast at one of the Ronald McDonald Houses, and started preparations for our 6th Annual Dress a Girl Around the World Sew-A-Thon. Please mark your calendars! It will be held here at St. Basil on Saturday, October 13, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. This is a metropolis-wide event. Bring yourself and some friends; no sewing is required. We need you!

Did you know? There are 58 Greek Orthodox churches in our Chicago Metropolis, and they're located in the following six states: Illinois, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, Indiana, and Missouri. Each has an active Philoptochos chapter. May God bless all our sisters and all of you!

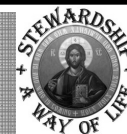
Faithfully,

Vana, Philoptochos President



Stewardship Update

By Maria-Kanella Koper



The Stewardship Ministry lovingly reminds all stewards that it is not too late to pledge for 2018. You can sign-up at <http://www.stbasilchicago.org/our-parish/stewardship/> or pick-up a pamphlet at the pangari.

2018 Snapshot (as of August 21, 2018)

<u>Stewards</u>	<u>Pledged</u>	<u>Collected</u>
144	\$167,419	\$99,525

Goal: 190 Stewards by September 30, 2018

We are looking for new members to join the stewardship team who are interested in helping grow the engagement of parishioners at St. Basil. We have some great ideas brewing but we need your support to help carry them out. No experience required, just love for our St. Basil community. If you are interested in being part of the team, please contact Maria-Kanella Koper at mariakkoper@gmail.com.

“Whatever you do, work at it with all your heart, as working for the Lord, not for men....” (Colossians 3:23)

Visit our booth during the Ministry Fair on September 9. We look forward to meeting with you!

Have you become a steward of St. Basil's? Visit our website at www.stbasilchicago.org and click on “Our Parish” and “Stewardship” to learn more or contact the church office at 312-243-3738 for additional information.

For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also. (Matt. 6:21)

Girls Ministry Update

By Presbyteria—Mary Tobias



Happy New Year, girls! I am so excited to continue the wonderful tradition that Mary Peroulas has introduced with the Girls Ministry.

We hope to see you on September 16 when the JOY kicks off with Sunday in the Park.

We will kick off our year in October with our contribution to the Dress a Girl Ministry.

We will have our fall calendar available soon.

Presbyteria Mary

Prison Ministry

By Steve and Pat Cole

Annual Prison Ministry Pancake Breakfast

Parishioners, mark your calendars. On Sunday, October 28, the Prison Ministry will hold its annual pancake breakfast in the fellowship hall immediately after Liturgy. Join us for pancakes, sausages, fruits, beverages, doughnuts, and other treats as we kick off the Angel Tree Christmas program, now in its eighth year. The purpose of the pancake breakfast is to raise funds for the purchase of Jewel food gift cards for the families of inmates in the program. Last year we were able to buy more than 40 cards at \$40 each with the money we raised at the pancake breakfast, and we hope we can do the same this year. Cost of the breakfast is \$10 per person; no charge for children under age 7.

We are looking for parishioners to help out that day with set-up, cooking, serving, and clean-up. If you can help, please contact Pat Cole by phone, text, or e-mail at 773-252-8254, patriciastahl@comcast.net.

Look for more information in upcoming Sunday bulletins.

Below are scenes from the 2017 breakfast:



2018-2019 Prison Ministry Schedule

- ◇ Pancake Breakfast planning meeting September 22, after liturgy
- ◇ Pancake Breakfast, October 28, after liturgy
- ◇ Calls to Angel Tree families, November 1-17 (made from home by parishioner volunteers)
- ◇ Parishioners sign up to purchase children's gifts
 - ◇ November 18
 - ◇ November 25
 - ◇ December 2
 - ◇ December 9
- ◇ Parishioners bring in wrapped gifts, December 2 and 9
- ◇ Volunteers deliver gifts to families, Saturday, December 15, 8:30 – 11:00 am
- ◇ New Year cards to prisoners, January 6, 2019
- ◇ Easter cards to prisoners, April 14, 2019
- ◇ Mother's Day cards to caregivers, May 5, 2019



The Chicago Architecture Center's Open House Chicago is a free public festival that offers behind-the-scenes access to more than 250 buildings across Chicago.

[Explore](#) the hidden gems and architectural treasures of Chicago's diverse neighborhoods—all for free.

Have you ever walked by a building and thought, "I wish I could see what's inside?" Now you can. Tour soaring skyscrapers, repurposed mansions, opulent theaters, exclusive private clubs, private offices and breathtaking sacred spaces (**St. Basil**).

A few volunteers are needed for the weekend. Please email gusdrugas@gmail.com

Saint John the Almsgiver Ministry

By Marina Arvanitis

On August 5, the St. John the Almsgiver Ministry packed over 30 “survival packs,” which our parish is providing to our neighbors in need. Each pack includes the items listed below.

We have distributed 14 packs to date. Please ask Fr. Dimitri, Nick Katsoulis, and Pat and Steve Cole about the rewarding experiences they’ve had distributing the packs so far.

If you would like to contribute to these efforts by distributing packs, please see Vicky Crosby in the church office. She will show you where to sign out packs. If you would like to contribute money or items to create more packs, please speak to Vicky Crosby or Marina Arvanitis.

Survival Pack Items
Jewel gift card - \$10
CTA single-transit ticket—\$3
White t-shirt (large)
White tube socks
Toothbrush
Travel-sized toothpaste
Comb
Band-Aids
Hand wipes (‘Wet Ones’ pocket-size singles)
Granola bars
Bottle of water

Sunday School

By Jennifer Georgopoulos

Dear Parents,

The beginning of Sunday School is fast approaching. It is with great excitement that we begin another Sunday School year with your precious children. An email regarding registration and forms will be sent to parents the first week of September. Please be sure to include your email address and your child's baptismal name.

Sunday School will begin on September 9, 2018. We will have an open house after Divine Liturgy and Sunday School to give parents the opportunity to meet the teachers and visit the classrooms.

With the help and guidance of Fr. Dimitri we have a wonderful team. I would like to introduce the St. Basil Sunday School team.

- ◇ K-1st grade classes— Stella Antonoglou
- ◇ 2nd-4th grade classes — Jennifer Georgopoulos and Marina Tsapalaris
- ◇ 5th-7th grade classes — Marina Arvanitis and Keri Chekalas
- ◇ Our substitute teachers include — Joanna Skourletos, Karina Onderdonk, and Maria Kanella Koper

If you have any questions regarding Sunday School please contact Jennifer Georgopoulos at jenspalla75@sbcglobal.net.

Coffee Hour Ministry

The Coffee Hour Ministry at St. Basil allows parishioners the opportunity to host coffee hour twice a month. It's a great way to get involved and promote fellowship at St. Basil while getting to know one another better.

We are looking for volunteers to either host a coffee hour or participate in hosting one of our Potluck Luncheons with a team of other parishioners.



If you are interested in volunteering, please contact the church office at 312-243-3738.

Sunday, September 2	Coffee Hour Ministry: Vicky Manasses
Sunday, September 9	Coffee Hour: Philoptochos
Sunday, September 16	Coffee Hour Ministry: Presbyteria Mary Tobias
Sunday, September 23	Coffee Hour: Philoptochos
Sunday, September 30	Coffee Hour: Philoptochos

Dress a Girl Ministry

By Dorothy Bezemes & Helene Frankos

“DRESS A GIRL AROUND THE WORLD”

Our ***“6th Annual Metropolis Dress a Girl Around the World Sew-a-Thon”*** will be held on Saturday, October 13, from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. Please keep that date open and join us. If you have never attended, you will experience a warmth in your heart, flowing tears, and, above all, love pouring into each dress or pants that you help make for one of the underprivileged children in this world.

Last year 11 churches participated in our sew-a-thon. We are hoping for even more this year and even larger participation from our own St. Basil family. Be prepared to do a lot of prep work before the dresses go to the sewers.

Since our sew-a-thon last year we sent 125 dresses and 26 pair of pants to Corpus Christi, Texas, after Hurricane Harvey hit there; we also purchased and included underwear, socks, and t-shirts. In January, 119 dresses and 26 pair of boys pants were hand-carried and delivered in India, along with t-shirts and underwear. The Girls Ministry added their artistic talent with their beautifully hand-printed personal notes and one was put in a pocket of each dress and pants. We have been told that the children loved them and proudly held them up while taking pictures. In July of this year, 79 dresses were given to our Ambassador, who sent a portion of them with a missionary to Uganda. We have shared many stories from those who have hand-carried and hand-delivered our clothing. All shared with us how privileged they felt that they were able to see the joy and excitement of the children receiving the dresses that we made.

Now we would like to share this story with you. About two years ago, a group who heard about the women's church group from America that were sewing and sending dresses to children in India wanted to also contribute and decided to put a watering station in one of the schools. Today, as we sit writing our article, we received a memo from Karen, who hand-carries and personally, along with her associate, hand-delivers the dresses telling us one of her clients is putting in four watering stations for the schools in need. Here are excerpts from her memo:

Here's the scoop:

Using our contacts in India, we seek out groups that focus on educating kids that either live in a place that makes it nearly impossible to get to school (i.e., they live in a tin shack in a farm field), their parents are illiterate and don't guide their children to school, etc. The individuals that create these schools are selfless volunteers who use their own funds to make these schools happen.

Thanks to your gifts, we were able to introduce these schools to clients of my company by inviting their employees to join us when we deliver your dresses. We continue to receive support to provide hot lunches, school supplies, and delivery of sweets on major holidays! The four watering stations are being sponsored by one of our clients. They have not been installed just yet as I have a volunteer investigating the ideal locations – goal is to have them up and running by December when our client returns to India. These watering stations provide a place the kids can wash their hands and gain access to safe water to drink. We will send you an update at the end of the year.

We will share Karen's update in one of our newsletters. For those of you attending our sew-a-thon, Karen plans to join us and perhaps she can take a few minutes to let us all know how the St. Basil Philoptochos Dress a Girl program has brought attention to many others and how they in turn are helping these children.

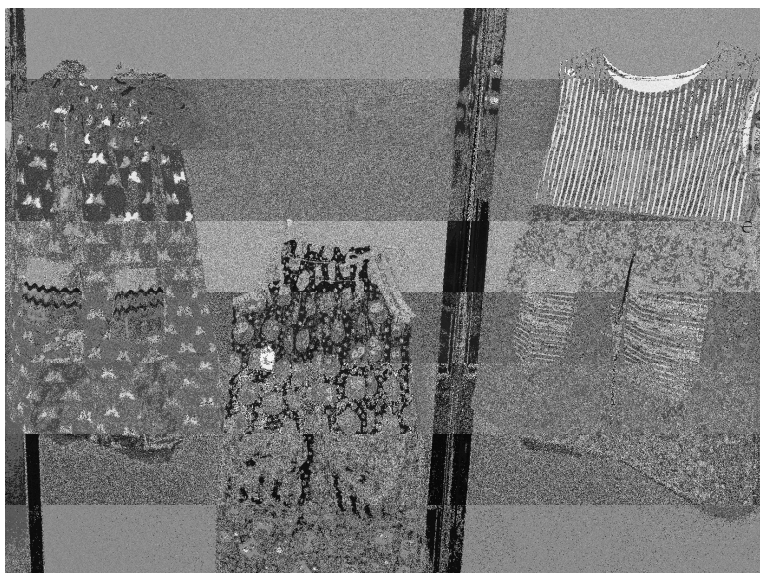
This year we decided that our flyer needed a new look. You will see photos of children in India and Uganda wearing the dresses and pants that were made by those attending our sew-a-thons and, of course, our own dedicated volunteers. Along with that we thought it would be interesting to add photos of scenes of our women and men working at the sew-a-thon. We do hope you will not only enjoy receiving it, but will share it with your family and friends.

Our next workshop will be held on September 15 from 9:30 a.m. until 12:00 p.m. Please come and help us prepare for our sew-a-thon even if only for an hour. Your support is needed and very much appreciated.

Once again, a reminder that our sew-a-thon is on October 13 from 9 a.m. until 2 p.m. If for only a short visit you will enjoy mingling with friends and see the love and bonding of the workers from the various churches.

Me Agape,

Dorothy & Helene



St. Basil — 2018 Stewards

<p>A Chris & Georgia Alemis Lex & Sue Alexander George Anagnos Michael Angelakos William Angelos John & Rebecca Antonoglu Stella Antonoglu + Panagiota Antonopoulos Dr. Marina Arvanitis</p> <p>B Gregory & Maria Bairaktaris Theodora Bairaktaris Katy Balabanis Dr. Robert & Dr. Sophia Sarkos-Barnes Tom & Leslie Bezanes Dorothy Bezemes John & Patoula Billiris John & Dr. Christine Bishop Andrew Brinkman Cassy Brinkman</p> <p>C John & Venus Campanelli John & Eleni Chioros Dean Christides Dean Christy Ernest & Christine Schenk Cochanis Stephan & Patricia Patsis-Cole Maria Constantinides Thomas Couston</p> <p>D John & Debra Dallianis Tim & Jenel Damis Anesti & Emily Dhima Matt & Alexis Douglas Constantine Drugas Alice Ducas</p> <p>F Themis & Angeline Fabiatos John & Nicole Felke Martin & Elaine Fosse +Maria Fotopoulos Charles & Rosemary Fountas Nicholas & Vicky Fountas Zach & Kalliopi Fountas Tony & Georgia Fragale John Frangias Nickoletta Frangias Themis Frangos Tony & Helene Frankos</p> <p>G Nick & Jennifer Georgopoulos George Goltzos Christina Gountanis Melita Green Kevin & Kathryn Gulley</p>	<p>H Sophia Haritos Arthur & Angie Harris Sophia Hausen Angela Haynes Melanie Hillock Willaim & Catherine Hostetler</p> <p>K Gus & Sasha Kalpake Senya Kalpake Stella Kapetan Aris Kapsopoulos George & Karen Karas Demetra Karas Zach Karwandyar Charles & Jean Katsoulis Evan & Eleni Katsoulis Nick Katsoulis Peter Katsoulis Tony & Christina Kidonakis Vana Kikos Harriet Kollias Ryan & Maria Kanella Koper John & Joanne Koudounis Phyllis Koumantos Vivien Kouros Constantine & Anastasia Koutsoubas Frank Kuchuris</p> <p>L John & Anna Lambros Arry Lazaridis</p> <p>M Dina Manasses Eleni Manasses Vicky Manasses Dean & Anastasia Maragos Juanita Marx Harry & Kathy Michas Georgia Motter</p> <p>N James & Amy Nicholson</p> <p>O Dr. Ben & Karina Onderdonk Jeffrey & Kalliope Osborne</p> <p>P James & Bess Pabin Demitra Panagopoulos Constantine Panos Dimos & Angela Panousakis Rhonda Panousakis Marcie Papadakis Bette Pappas Ken & Helen Paspalas-Rubenstein Lambros & Mary Peroulas Katina Phillips</p>	<p>John & Carol Pontikes Eleni Pontikes Joann Prekezes Adam & Anna Pyne</p> <p>R John Regas Peter Regas Suzanne Regas Robert & Irene Rohrman Vivian Rosenberg Anthony & Christina Rouches Demetra Rouches Ann Rousakis Sam & Christine Rousakis</p> <p>S Ana Marie Sandoval Irene Santos Gus & Eleni Sarolas Jayme Schenk Konstantinos & Marisa Schoinas Harold & Cindy Schroeder Emily Sedares Nicholas Senopoulos Panagiota Sianis Paul & Pamela Sianis Tom & Eleni Sianis Grigorios & Debra Skourletos Demetrios & Tiffany Stavrianos Brian & Nicole Steinberg George & Anastasia Stefas Kathy Stratton</p> <p>T Joseph & Eileen Tazioli Gerasim & Edith Tikoff Dr. Richard & Angela Tobias Fr. Dimitri & Presvytera Mary Tobias Nick & Kristen Triandafilou George Tsagaris MariaTsagaris Anthony Tsenes Sophia Tsilimigras George & Juliana Tziahanas</p> <p>V Catherine Valsamoulis George & Mary Varygiannes Dee Vergos</p> <p>W Kathy Walstrom Charles & Katherine Webster Francis & Kanella Willsey</p> <p>Z George & Dorothy Zimbrakos</p>
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St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church - September 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Greek Festivals
2 Sunday School Registration Greek Festivals 7:00 am Orthros & Divine Liturgy for St. Mamas 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy	3 Labor Day	4 7:00 pm Teacher meeting	5 6:00 pm Paraklesis (Supplication Service) to the Virgin Mary	6 Pastoral Day for Fr. Dimitri	7 6:00 pm Greek Festivals Metropolitan Listening Tour for Chicago	8 8:30 am Greek Festivals "Orthros and Divine Liturgy for Nativity of the Virgin Mary"
9 Ministry Fair First day of Sunday School & Open House Greek Festivals 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy 11:30 am Ministry Fair	10 7:00 pm Parish Council Meeting	11 7:00 pm Chicago Cubs Outing	12 10:00 am Bible Study Paraklesis (Supplication Service) to the Virgin Mary 6:50pm Philopochos Meeting	13 7:00 pm Pastoral Day for Fr. Dimitri Great Vespers of Holy Cross (Justice, IL)	14 8:30 am "Orthros and Divine Liturgy for Elevation of the Life-Giving Cross"	15 10:30 am Dress A Girl Workshop
16 JOY in the Park Greek Festivals 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy 7:00 pm Vespers of St. Sophia and her Three Daughters	17 8:00 am Greek Festivals Orthros & Divine Liturgy of St. Sophia and her Three Daughters	18 Greek Festivals	19 10:00 am Bible Study Paraklesis (Supplication Service) to the Virgin Mary 6:00 pm	20 8:30 am Pastoral Day for Fr. Dimitri Orthros & Divine Liturgy for St. Eustathios 7:00 pm Online Adult Education	21	22
23 Sunday School Family Sunday 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy 8:30 am Orthros & Divine Liturgy for the Conception of the Forerunner	24	25	26 8:30 am "Orthros and Divine Liturgy for St. John the Evangelist" 10:00 am Bible Study Paraklesis (Supplication Service) to the Virgin Mary 6:00 pm	27 7:00 pm Pastoral Day for Fr. Dimitri Online Adult Education	28	29 3:00 pm +Wedding
30 8:15 am Orthros and Divine Liturgy						

SAVE THE DATE

**ST. BASIL CHURCH OUTING TO THE
CHICAGO CUBS**

Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2018 • 7:05pm



CHICAGO CUBS **VS** **MILWAUKEE BREWERS**

\$50 / person

Come out for a wonderful night of baseball, fun, and fellowship!

Tickets are located in the lower deck and can be purchased online at www.stbasilchicago.org/cubs or after church.

QUESTIONS? CONTACT ST. BASIL AT (312) 243-3738 OR stbasilchicago@comcast.net.



St. Basil Greek Orthodox Church
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